

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2284 - SB 2290

February 29, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates the Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY). The SCCY will consist of 18 members; nine Senators to be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate and nine members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The SCCY shall meet at least eight times a year and at the call of the chair. The appointed members will have a desire to serve on the SCCY and be committed to improving the lives of Tennessee's children by making "the best interests of each child" their primary focus. Each member is entitled to per diem and travel expenses, provided that no member will receive additional legislative compensation when the General Assembly is in session, or when being paid for attendance on other state business.

Authorizes SCCY to create subcommittees, conduct meetings and public hearings across the state, employ committee staff, and enter into contracts for technical or professional services. Requires the SCCY to provide a report to each member of the General Assembly, at the conclusion of every regular annual legislative session occurring in an even-numbered year, which summarizes the SCCY's activities, findings, recommendations, and proposals.

Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education to report at least twice a year to the SCCY on the Department's performance of its statutory duties and responsibilities, including the extent of funding available for a dropout prevention program. Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to report to SCCY at least three times each year on the performance of the Department's statutory duties and responsibilities. Allows SCCY to receive information and assistance, upon request, from the Commission on Children and Youth, the Department of Children's Services, the Department of Education, and other agencies of state government.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$214,400

Assumptions:

- Travel and per diem expenses for 18 legislative members of \$6,185 per meeting (\$204 per diem plus \$139.59 mileage for each member).
- Assuming that two meetings will be held during session, the recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$37,110 (\$6,185 x 6 meetings per year).

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- Public Chapter 410 of the Public Acts of 2011 eliminated several joint legislative committees including the Select Oversight Committee on Children and Youth. At the time the Committee was abolished there was an Executive Director and a Legislative Administrative Assistant. The budgeted amount for the Select Oversight Committee on Children and Youth for FY09-10 was \$146,600 and was used in the Special Report on Joint Oversight Committees issued in 2011 by the Comptroller's Office.
- Assuming the same amount will be budgeted to reestablish the Committee, there will be a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$177,300 (\$30,700 operational costs + \$146,600 staff salaries and benefits).
- The Commission on Children and Youth, Department of Children's Services, the Department of Education, and other state agencies will not require additional resources to provide information to the Committee as requested. Any increase in workloads can be accommodated within existing resources.
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$214,410 (\$37,110 + \$177,300).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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